

Hazardous Sites, Public Record

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe Natural Resource Department



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The Mashkiiziibii Brownfields Program was implemented to address environmentally contaminated sites across the Reservation. The EPA defines the term "Brownfield" as abandoned, idle and under-used real properties where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by the presence or potential presence of environmental contamination. Some examples are oil spills, leaking underground storage tanks, and abandoned or improperly closed landfills. The EPA workplan for the Brownfields program requires an annually updated public record, to ensure the community is adequately informed of these sites on the Reservation. Access to this record will be made available on the Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department's website.

Hazardous site status ranking system per Ch. 380, The Bad River Band Environmental Response and Remediation Code (ERRC). The ranking represents the current hazards to human and environmental health, with the goal of remediating the sites to a standard, pre-release condition:

- 1 = Sites of high risk to human and environmental health, needing immediate remediation and monitoring
- 2= Sites with risk to human and environmental health, remediation needed and monitoring to follow
- 3= Sites with environmental risk, possible long-term human risk, remediation, and long-term monitoring needed
- 4= Sites with possible long-term environmental risks, some remediation and monitoring of contaminants needed
- 5=Sites with little to no risk, very minimal remediation needed, no long-term monitoring needed

Sludge Sites:

Sludge landfill sites on the Reservation were identified in relation to paper mill waste dumping. Human and environmental health concerns can arise from these substances migrating into the air, surface water, groundwater, and soils. Consultation with the EPA in March 2020 regarding sludge sites resulted in designation of "No Further Remedial Action Planned." MNRD will investigate alternative funding to remediate these locations.

	Status	Remediation & Monitoring	Size (acres)	Latitude & Longitude	Legal Description	Description
County Rd A	3	Monitor levels of heavy metals in soil to ensure their continued reduction	3	46.599314° -90.714205°	NW1/4 NW1/4 SEC. 35 T48N R3W	The site used to be a borrow pit for the construction of Hwy 2. From 1968 to 1970 the site was used as a landfill for paper mill sludge waste.
Government Rd	3	Monitoring of soil contamination and groundwater planned	9	46.538634 -90.730995°	SE1/4 NW1/4 SEC. 22 T47N R3W	In the late 70s an estimated 90,000 to 100,000 cubic yards of paper mill sludge waste was disposed at this site (actual quantity unknown). The landfill was capped with red clay and monitoring wells were installed.
Verlyn Clark	3	Monitoring of contaminants found in 2015 testing & future remediation being planned	50	46.614894° -90.819660°	NW1/4 NW1/4 SEC. 25 T48N R4W	Verlyn Clark and Son Trucking (VCST) disposed of thousands of gallons of waste at this site without any effort to cover or bury material. After a lengthy battle for compliance between the DNR and VCST there was effort to get the site properly covered.

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Spill Sites:

When a spill occurs, there is potential for contaminants to migrate to ground and/or surface water. This can have many harmful effects on human and environmental health. Petroleum products, as vapors or in groundwater, are causes of concern to both human and environmental health.

- A previous contamination event, the Kivi Bros. Trucking, Inc. diesel fuel spill site, is now listed as "No Further Remedial Action Planned." This site was cleaned of the contaminants, and then tested for any residual hazardous substances. The tests results met the Tribe's cleanup standards, and a certificate of closure was issued.

	Status	Remediation & Monitoring	Size (acres)	Latitude & Longitude	Township, range, section	Description
Enbridge Helicopter Crash		Monitoring occurred Summer 2020; results as of October 2020 show no exceedances of hazardous materials remain in soil. Monitoring to continue.	.5	46.531488 -90.603182	NE1/4 NW1/4 SEC. 27 T47N R2W	On October 29 th , 2018 an Enbridge helicopter conducting an inspection on the Line 5 pipeline crashed releasing jet fuel, engine oil, and hydraulic fluid to the surrounding wetland ecosystem. Bioremediation was selected as a method of cleanup to reduce the impact to water resources.

Underground Storage Tanks (UST's):

UST's are typically used to store petroleum or other hazardous substances; on the Reservation, identified sites have primarily been in relation to gas station fuel storage. When the tanks are in poor condition or are abandoned, they have the potential to rupture and need to be removed. A ruptured or leaking UST can contaminate ground/surface water and soils which may impact human and environmental health.

	Status	Remediation & Monitoring	Street Address	Description
Firehall	4	Inspection of site for indication of residual contamination	53923 Birch St, Odanah, WI	On March 11th, 2016 an unknown vehicle drove over the firehall lawn causing an underground storage tank to rupture and release fuel oil to the area. Approximately 700 gallons of impacted meltwater was pumped out, contaminated soil was excavated, and ruptured UST was removed.
J&S Quick Mart	4	Monitoring of contaminant movement occurring	72787 US Hwy 2, Odanah, WI	This site discontinued the use of UST's in 1998. However, the UST's weren't properly closed and were leaking fuel. In 2016 a site assessment was done to confirm leaking UST's. The tanks and product lines were removed from the site in November of 2018. Residual contamination exists and additional monitoring is underway.
Maday Gas Station	4	Inspection of site for indication of residual contamination	Old US Hwy 2 & Old Odanah Rd	The site was originally a gas station, store, and residence. The UST was active from 2002-2008 but was closed due to leaking of leaded and unleaded gasoline. Site was properly closed but Residual Contaminant Levels (RCL's) do persist.

Please contact the Bad River Brownfield Specialist with questions, comments, or knowledge of potential brownfield sites on the Reservation.

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